(b) the quantum of gas produced from these blocks during 2002-03, the likely production during 2003-04 and how and where the same is proposed to be utilized;

(c) whether any new CBM blocks have been identified; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the likely annual production therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Government of India has signed contracts for 8 blocks for exploration and production of Coal Bed Methane (CBM). These blocks are located in Jharkhand (3 blocks namely Bokaro North Karanpura and Jharia), Madhya Pradesh (2 blocks namely Sohagpur East and Sohagpur West) and West Bengal (3 blocks namely Raniganj North, Raniganj South and Raniganj East).

(b) These blocks are under various stages of exploration/assessment and commercial production has not commenced in any of the blocks.

(c) and (d) Government of India has offered 9 CBM blocks under the second offer of CBM Policy (CBM-II). The bid closing date is 15.10.2003. The 9 blocks are located in Andhra Pradesh (1 block), Chhattisgarh (1 block)-partially in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat (1 block), Jharkhand (2 blocks), Madhya Pradesh (2 blocks), Maharashtra (1 block) and Rajasthan (2 blocks). These are exploration blocks and reserves/ production can be estimated only after exploration/pilot assessment etc.

**Barauni oil refinery**

†237. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated capacity of Barauni oil refinery situated in Bihar;

(b) whether supply of crude oil to the refinery is as per its installed capacity;

(c) if not, the loss suffered during each of the last three years as a result thereof;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) whether Government have made any scheme for supply of crude oil as per its capacity; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) The installed capacity of Barauni refinery, as on 1.4.2003, is 6.0 Million Metric Tonnes Per Annum (MMTPA).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The profit (loss), before tax, at Barauni refinery during the last three years is as under:—

(Rs. in crore)

| 2002-2003 | 2001-2002 | 2000-2001 |
|---|---|---|
| 236.37 | -(48.48) | -(237.68) |

(d) and (e) Crude oil to Barauni refinery is supplied through a pipeline from Haldia which has adequate capacity to meet crude oil requirement of Barauni refinery.

**New oil refineries in Rajasthan**

238. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU):Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set-up oil refineries at any convenient place of Rajasthan for generation of employment in view of new oil and gas reserves found at various places;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) The country is marginally surplus in refining capacity as on date. Further, in addition to the refinery expansion projects under implementation, five grassroot refinery projects are also planned. The